

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Nutrients are added to water kefir grains, and the arising biopolymer is mechanically harvested and dried to yield solid particles that are suitable for use as packaging, soil improver, food or feed, as bedding for animals, as the stationary phase in chromatography, and as a desiccant. The porosity of the particles is increased by freeze-drying or by adding propellants. Chemically or otherwise modified biopolymer may be used for various applications.